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GENERAL

1. US views on Austrian treaty terms--The Department of State has informed US Representative Reber in London that the US does not share the British view concerning the desirability of promptly accepting Soviet terms on the German assets problem in order to reach agreement on the Austrian treaty in the near future. The Department considers the substance of the treaty and its long-range effect to be more important than its prompt completion and expresses the view that acceptance of the present Soviet terms would greatly increase the possibilities of future Soviet pressure, intensify Austria's need for direct aid, and make US ratification of the resulting treaty exceedingly difficult. The Department suggests that a western diplomatic approach to the USSR might clarify issues for future settlement, possibly by the Foreign Ministers.

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